

14-Action and Deeds

He who does not, in this world, help to turn the wheel thus set in motion, is evil in his nature, sensual in his delight, and he, Arjuna, lives in vain.

Hinduism, *Bhagavad Gita* 3: 16

Therefore, let the scripture be your authority in determining what ought to be done and what ought not to be done. Knowing this, you should do here only such action as is sanctioned by scriptural ordinance.

Hinduism, *Bhagavad-Gita* 16: 24

Thou hast multiplied, O LORD my God, thy wondrous deeds and thy thoughts toward us; none can compare with thee!
Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be numbered.

Judaism, *Tehilim (Psalms)*, 40: 5

Act without doing; work without effort.
Think of the small as large and the few as many.
Confront the difficult while it is still easy; accomplish the great task by a series of small acts.

Taoism, *Tao Te Ching*, Chapter 63

If you realize that all things change, there is nothing you will try to hold on to.

If you aren't afraid of dying, there is nothing you can't achieve.

Taoism, *Tao Te Ching*, Chapter 74

For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

Christianity, *Hebrews* 6: 10

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves....For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so faith apart from works is dead.

Christianity, *James* 2: 22, 26

It is these who hasten in every good work, and these who are foremost in them.

No person knows what delights of the eye are kept hidden for them—as a reward for their good deeds.

Islam, *Qur'án* 32: 17

All that is with you passeth away, but that which is with God abideth. With a reward meet for their best deeds will we surely recompense those who have patiently endured.

Whoso doeth that which is right, whether male or female, if a believer, him will we surely quicken to a happy life, and recompense them with a reward meet for their best deeds.

Islam, *Qur'an*, 16: 100-101

No goodly deed was or will ever be lost, for benevolent acts are treasures preserved with God for the benefit of those who act. Blessed the servant and the maidservant who have fulfilled their obligation in the path of God our Lord, the Lord of all worlds....

Bahá'i, Bahá'u'lláh,
Compilation of Compilations, Vol I, p. 502

Were man to appreciate the greatness of his station and the loftiness of his destiny he would manifest naught save goodly character, pure deeds, and a seemly and praiseworthy conduct.

Bahá'i, Bahá'u'lláh
Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 172

Therefore strive that your actions day by day may be beautiful prayers. Turn towards God, and seek always to do that which is right and noble. Enrich the poor, raise the fallen, comfort the sorrowful, bring healing to the sick, reassure the fearful, rescue the oppressed, bring hope to the hopeless, shelter the destitute!

Bahá'i, 'Abdu'l-Bahá,
Paris Talks, p. 81